WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Performance of the SVGA Colour Picture Tube Industry

1944. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of the SVGA colour picture tube industry during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the technology in this industry is closely guarded by the Japanese and the Korean companies;

(c) whether the existing duty structure for these colour picture tubes, while being protective of the industry, is adversely affecting the growing colour monitor industry in the country;

(d) if so, what remedial measures are envisaged; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) At present, the SVGA colour picture tubes are not being manufactured in the country.

(b) The technology in the industry is mainly owned by Japanese and Korean Companies.

(c) to (e) Basic Customs Duty on colour monitor tubes has been reduced from 20% to 10% in the Budget (1997-98) while retaining the duty on colour monitors at 20% thereby keeping a differential of 10% between inputs and the finished product in the interest of the indigenous colour monitor industry.

Setting up of Electronics Industries

1945. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted for setting up of electronics industries in States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any requests have been received from the Bihar Government for assistance to set up such industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No such study has been conducted by the Department of Electronics.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Food Processing Industries

1946. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise the food processing industries in the country, to make it a high technology sector;

(b) if so, the details of the steps Government propose to take in this regard; and

(c) whether the increased export target of processed foods would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) and (b) The various steps taken by Government for promotion of food processing industries inter alia